

EXETER-WEST GREENWICH REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Tuesday, December 10, 2013, 6:00 p.m.

Business Meeting

Jr. – Sr. High School Library, 930 Nooseneck Hill Road, West Greenwich, RI 02817

MEETING MINUTES

The form and content of these minutes conform to commonly accepted standards and shall become the official record of the meeting after review and approval by the School Committee. By definition, minutes are not a verbatim record of the proceedings.

A DVD recording is made a part of the record for a complete account of the School Committee meeting and is available for viewing on the EWG District website.

Convene Meeting

Call to order Chair Cicero, 6:03 PM

Board members present: Teri Cicero, Chairperson; Mark Rafanelli, Vice Chairperson; Valerie Zuercher, Clerk; Lee Kissinger, Theresa Donovan, Paul McFadden, Claudine Pande

Others present: James Erinakes, II, Superintendent; Robert Ross, Director of Administration, (arrived 6:09 PM), Marie-Elena Ahern, Director of Curriculum; Student Representative Abigail Borges

- I. **Pledge of Allegiance**
- II. **District Mission Statement**
- III. **Open Forum (15-minute limit)**

Patricia D'Andrea of West Greenwich referenced a request community member Mike Kelly had brought to the committee at a previous meeting to explore installing additional school zone signage on Route 3. She informed members that she brought the matter to her employer's attention, the RI Department of Transportation, (DOT). DOT conducted a traffic study of the area and approved the request to install new signs.

- IV. **Recognition/Achievements**
 - A. **WordWright Challenge Contest Honorees**

Superintendent Erinakes and Chair Cicero recognized/congratulated Mrs. Sharon Sutton and her students Austin Ashworth and Joseph Miceli for recently winning honors in this year's WordWright Challenge. Nearly 70,000 students from 47 states participated in the contest. Austin was one of thirty-four students to receive a perfect score. Joseph also earned an outstanding score.

V. Presentation
A. Student Representative Report

Bob Ross arrived, (6:09 PM).

Student Representative Abigail Borges offered a listing of senior high school events.

VI. Routine Items
Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting Minutes of November 26, 2013; Policy Subcommittee Meeting Minutes of December 2, 2013

B. Personnel Items

- 1. Appointments**
- 2. Leaves of Absence**
- 3. Resignations**
- 4. Non-Renewals**
- 5. Recalls**
- 6. Sabbaticals**
- 7. Contracts**

C. Bills – Bills in the amount of \$136,677.25

D. Home School Approvals

- 1. New Family – Grade(s) 7, 5, 3**

End Consent Agenda

MSV – To accept the consent agenda – Pande/Kissinger – (7-0) – MOTION APPROVED

**E. Correspondence – (1) Affordable Care Act Information;
(2) September 3, 2012 – November 30, 2012 and August 28, 2013
– November 30, 2013 Discipline Reports**

F. 2013 – 2014 Budget Projection

G. Monthly Subcommittee Report

- 1. Policy Subcommittee**
- 2. IT Subcommittee**
- 3. Public Relations Subcommittee**
- 4. Charter Review Subcommittee**

H. Monthly Status Reports

- 1. Superintendent**
- 2. Curriculum**
- 3. Business**
- 4. Special Education**
- 5. Maintenance**
- 6. Technology**

MSV = Motion, Seconded, Vote

VII. New Business

A. Approve Lowell Holiday Wrestling Tournament Trip Proposal

MSV – To approve [the Lowell Holiday Wrestling Tournament Trip Proposal] – Rafanelli/Zuercher – (7-0) – MOTION APPROVED

B. Approve 6th Annual Timmy Collins Memorial Duals Wrestling Trip Proposal

MSV – To approve [the 6th Annual Timmy Collins Memorial Duals Wrestling Trip Proposal] – Kissinger/Donovan – (7-0) – MOTION APPROVED

C. Request to Move Graduation Date

MSV – To accept Susan's [Chandler] proposal [to move the date of the 2014 Graduation from Saturday, June 21, 2014 at 1:00 PM to Saturday, June 14, 2014 at 1:00 PM] – Kissinger/Zuercher – (7-0) – MOTION APPROVED

D. Policies Review/Adoption/Deletion

1. 7801: Reporting Student Progress – Amendment

MSV – To approve policy 7801 as amended – Pande/Zuercher – (7-0) – MOTION APPROVED

2. 7805: Vacation Homework Policy – Amendment

MSV – To pass policy 7805 – Zuercher/Kissinger – (7-0) – MOTION APPROVED

3. 8501: Rights and Responsibilities of Students and Parents – Amendment

MSV – To approve policy 8501 – Kissinger/Pande – (7-0) – MOTION APPROVED

E. Public Access to School Facilities and School Personnel

Superintendent Erinakes offered information regarding an issue that exists because of differences of opinion of understanding the interpretation of policy 9700 regarding public access to school facilities. He stated that there was a question about a member of the public arriving to school unannounced and going into the building. Members offered feedback including safety concerns. Member Pande stated that other schools have similar policies in place that restrict access by unauthorized persons and recommended sending the policy change to the policy subcommittee.

MSV – To bring this to the policy subcommittee to either amend this policy or create a new one for access to our buildings – Pande/Zuercher – (6-1) – (Member Paul McFadden dissented) – MOTION APPROVED

MSV = Motion, Seconded, Vote

VIII. Unfinished Business

A. Policies Review/Adoption/Deletion

1. 7702: Curriculum Materials Selection and Adoption – 2nd Reading

MSV – To approve policy 7702 – Kissinger/Donovan – (7-0) – MOTION APPROVED

B. Capital Project/RIDE Technology Update

Mr. Ross reported that the District was awarded the Rhode Island Department of Education (RIDE) Wireless Classroom Initiative (WCI) Grant for \$209,519.10. He requested the committee vote to approve up to \$174,588.90 to cover the total cost of the wireless initiative. That amount needs to be assigned from the General Fund to the Capital Reserve-Technology Fund. If additional wiring costs go above the anticipated amount, a request would come back to the committee for approval.

MSV – To accept this proposal on a not to exceed bases of \$174,588.90 without further School Committee approval – Kissinger/Pande –

Member Donovan offered two quick acknowledgements. First, she attributed the fact that EWG was the first District to be awarded the RIDE WCI grant to the expertise and diligence of EWG administration and recognized them for getting EWG to this place at this time. Second, she was pleased to see Carousel Industries, an Exeter company, awarded the bid.

(7-0) – MOTION APPROVED

IX. Reports/Comments

Member Kissinger requested committee members receive a breakdown at the next meeting of what projects remain so that the committee can start prioritizing the Capital Projects.

Member Donovan stated that at the last Exeter Town Council meeting, the auditor's report indicated additional information from the school district was impending. Mr. Ross verified that information was sent to Joe Gillis, Deputy Treasurer.

Member Pande stated that she would need to know the safety assessment figures in advance of making a decision to move forward with prioritizing the Capital Projects.

Superintendent Erinakes reported he would be working on the safety improvement project during the upcoming winter break. The policy subcommittee would review the Human Capital and School Safety policies at its next meeting. The current school safety policy requires significant revisions.

- X. **Important Dates and Meetings** – Tuesday, January 7, 2014-School Committee Meeting; Tuesday, January 21, 2014-School Committee Meeting; Tuesday, January 28, 2014-Budget Workshop; Thursday, February 6, 2014-Joint Meeting; Tuesday, February 11, 2014-School Committee Meeting; Tuesday, February 25, 2014-School Committee Meeting (*Budget Adoption*)
- XI. **Executive Session – RIGL 42-46-4 and RIGL 42-46-5**
A. 42-46-5 (a)(9) – CBA – Grievance(s)
B. 42-46-5 (2) – CBA – (C-94/Teachers' Association)-Negotiation Discussion and/or Pending Litigation
C. 42-46-5 (a)(1) – Personnel

The committee did not meet in Executive Session.

- XII. **Adjournment**
MSV – To adjourn – Zuercher/Pande – (7-0) – MOTION APPROVED

The meeting adjourned at 7:22 PM

**ROBIN CERIO
RECORDING SECRETARY**